

# **Governor's Energy Efficiency and Renewables Task Force Building Codes and Standards Workgroup Meeting Minutes**

**May 25, 2004**

Department of Administration Building, 101 E. Wilson Street, Madison

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Present: Jim Boullion, David Simon, Randy Schneider, Doug Johnson, Sen. Fred Risser  
Guests: Keith Reopelle, Norman Bair, Jim Quast, Judy Mathewson, Cathy Boies, Don Hynek,  
Jim Mapp, Lisa Roys, John Mielke, Beata Kalies.

1. Review Minutes from April 13<sup>th</sup> meeting - Approved
2. Update on Safety and Buildings Code Writing Councils: Uniform Dwelling Code (residential) and Commercial Codes. – Jim Quast gave a brief update.
  - The S&B Division has published its scope statement announcing their plans to begin updating the Commercial Code this fall.
  - They will use the most current IEC that is available, hopefully incorporating the 2006 version.
  - Will start a comprehensive review of commercial code looking at the 2003 and 2006 versions
  - There will be different councils looking at various aspects of the code
  - Target date to implement new code would be January 1, 2007 (earliest possible date)
  - We'll know by end of 2005 what will be in the 2006 edition of the IECC
3. Discussion of WE Energies Building Code Collaborative proposals.
4. Discuss proposals from Norman Bair, Division of Energy.
5. Review Legislative Council research paper on statutory restrictions and requirements that affect energy issues in Wisconsin's building code. Discuss issues that we may want to consider changing.
6. Discuss recommendations
  - a. **Building Code Update:** Recommend that the Governor direct the Division of Safety & Buildings to begin the process of updating Wisconsin's Commercial energy codes no later than September 1<sup>st</sup>, 2004 and submit the proposed changes to the legislature by September 1<sup>st</sup> 2006. (WEEBCC) – ***The BC&S Workgroup recommends endorsement of this proposal.***

- b. **Adopt Current IEC:** Recommend that the Governor direct the Division of Safety & Buildings use the most current version of the IEC that is available as the basis for its Commercial Code update review. (WEEBCC) – ***The BC&S Workgroup recommends endorsement of this proposal.***
- c. **Endorse WEEBCC Proposals:** Recommends that the 3 proposals from the WE Energies Energy Building Code Collaborative be included in the code update. (WEEBCC)
  - i. Building Envelope: Eliminate the alternate component package (ACP) method for energy budget calculations. Improve minimum u-factor rating for all commercial building windows to no higher than .04 and a maximum solar heat gain coefficient of no more than 0.50.
  - ii. Lighting: Eliminate the area category method of calculating lighting density. Adopt the ASHRAE 90.1 maximum lighting power density tables.
  - iii. Residential Thermostats: Prohibit the use of thermostats that contain mercury.

***The BC&S Workgroup recommends endorsement of this proposal. The Workgroup asked that supporting cost/benefit numbers be included in final proposals.***

- d. **State Owned Buildings:** Recommend that the Governor direct the Division of Facilities Development to require that all newly constructed state owned buildings must be designed to have at least 20% better energy efficiency than the State minimum building code. (Reopelle). – ***The BC&S Workgroup recommends endorsement of this proposal.***
- e. **Appliance Standards:** Establish minimum energy efficiency standards for certain commercial and residential appliances. (Reopelle). – ***The BC&S Workgroup is taking this proposal under advisement pending review of public comments.***
- f. Dark Sky's/Outdoor Lighting: Adopt an outdoor lighting code that improves energy efficiency and reduces light pollution (Reopelle) – ***The BC&S Workgroup is taking this proposal under advisement pending review of public comments.***
- g. **3-Year Code Cycle:** Change 101.27 to require a 3-year code review cycle instead of the current 5-year cycle using the IECC as the base code. (DOA) – ***The BC&S Workgroup recommends endorsement of this proposal.***

- h. **Auto-Flushing Urinals:** Repeal 101.07 which prohibits the State from restricting the use of manual flushing devices for urinals. (preempted by feds) (DOA) – ***The BC&S Workgroup recommends endorsement of this proposal.***
- i. **UL Listed:** Amend statutes to clarify that smoke detectors must be UL “listed.” The statutes currently say “approved”. (DOA) – ***The BC&S Workgroup recommends endorsement of this proposal.***
- j. **Focus on Energy Inspections:** Amend 101.122 to allow a building that is participating in a recognized Focus on Energy building improvement project to qualify as having passed the rental unit weatherization requirement. (DOA) – ***The BC&S Workgroup recommends endorsement of this proposal.***
- k. **Allow for alternative methods of code compliance** – Allow a pilot program to use an alternative method of building inspection using in-house building inspectors who are specifically trained in energy conservation practices. Inspectors would work for contractor but report to local municipalities. (DOA). – ***The BC&S Workgroup is taking this proposal under advisement pending review of public comments.***
- l. **Radiant Heaters:** Amend 101.124 to prohibit radiant heaters from being used outside of buildings. (i.e. outdoor seating at restaurants) (DOA) – ***The BC&S Workgroup does not support this proposal.***
- m. **Non-Essential Use of Gas:** Improve enforcement of 196.97 prohibiting the use of non-essential gas. PSC has written a rule to implement the law (PSC 139.05 admin code) but no state agency is enforcing. PSC does not have staff. Should S&B or DATCAP get staff to enforce? (DOA) – ***The BC&S Workgroup does not support this proposal.***
- n. Amend 101.63 (1m) and 101.73(1m) to require 1&2 family or manufactured buildings to meet tested air-tightness and ventilation requirements if they use electric space heating. (DOA) – ***The BC&S Workgroup is taking this proposal under advisement pending review of public comments.***
- o. **PSC Enforcement of Building Codes:** Require that PSC building code requirements in PSC 136.04 and 136.06 be referred to current state building codes rather than creating their own code requirements (kicks in when changing heat from electric to gas heat and or gas to electric.) (PSC) – ***The BC&S Workgroup recommends that the PSC review this rule and consider updating it.***

7. Schedule future meeting: Tuesday, June 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2004. Room 10A, 101 E. Wilson St., Madison Wisconsin. 1:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.
  - a. Review comments from the June 15<sup>th</sup> public hearing.
  - b. Make final recommendations on proposals that are before the Workgroup.
  - c. Determine if any future Workgroup meetings are needed.
8. Adjourn.

Even if the UW or State is already performing above the building code standards it would be very beneficial PR wise to publicize the idea that the state is taking the lead and achieving the 20% increase.